

Internal Academic Review 2009-2010

Department of Philosophy Internal Academic Review Committee Report to Senate

The Internal Academic Review (IAR) of the Department of Philosophy is now complete. The Internal Academic Review Committee (IARC) has taken into consideration all of the submissions related to the IAR of the Department of Philosophy and respectfully submits the following report. The IARC Report to Senate is intended to supplement the findings of the attached Review Team Report and to provide a mechanism for the Head of the Department of Philosophy and the Associate Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science to jointly report on the progress in addressing the Review Team recommendations (please see the “Outcomes” section of this report).

Summary of the Internal Academic Review of the Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy is to be congratulated on its excellent undergraduate program, a flourishing MA program and

course offerings to reduce undesirable overlap between first-year and higher-level courses.

As noted in both the External Consultants and Review Team Reports, the present space allocation for graduate students continues to be unsatisfactory and is perceived as a hindrance in recruitment of highly qualified students. The IARC was encouraged to learn that the Faculty of Arts and Science is exploring the availability of additional space for graduate students in Mackintosh-Corry Hall and strongly supports this initiative.

The IARC recognizes the Department of Philosophy as a strong department despite the lack of adequate space for its graduate students and the current climate of fiscal constraints. The IARC fully supports and commends the Department's efforts, in collaboration with the Faculty of Arts and Science and the School of Graduate Studies, to sustain both national and international prominence.

**Outcomes of the Internal Academic Review of the
Department of Philosophy**

*Joint response submitted by the
Dean of Arts & Science and the Head of the Department of Philosophy*

The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Science and the Head of the Department of Philosophy welcome the very positive assessments of the Department of Philosophy by the IARC, and are happy to provide the following in relation to specific points raised by the IARC.

We agree that this is a desirable goal, and the reliance on term adjunct and emeritus instructors to deliver a number of undergraduate courses has been mitigated recently as the Department now has three faculty members with continuing adjunct status who contribute significantly to the Department's permanent teaching resources. The Department has also been able to commit resources to allow for some doctoral students to gain experience as teaching fellows, thereby augmenting the overall teaching complement.

